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MY WAY,
YOU PITIFUL
HAS-
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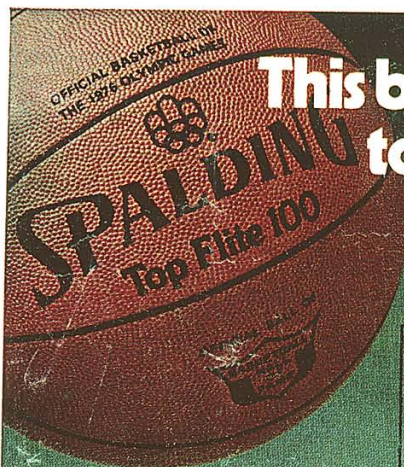
HAMMERHEAD
IS COMIN'
THRU!

THIS TIME,
NOT EVEN
DEATH
WILL STOP ME!!



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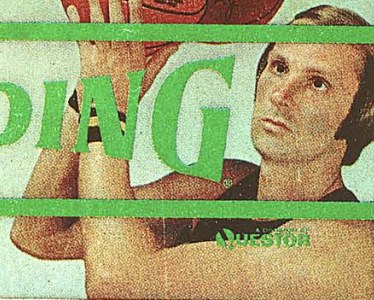
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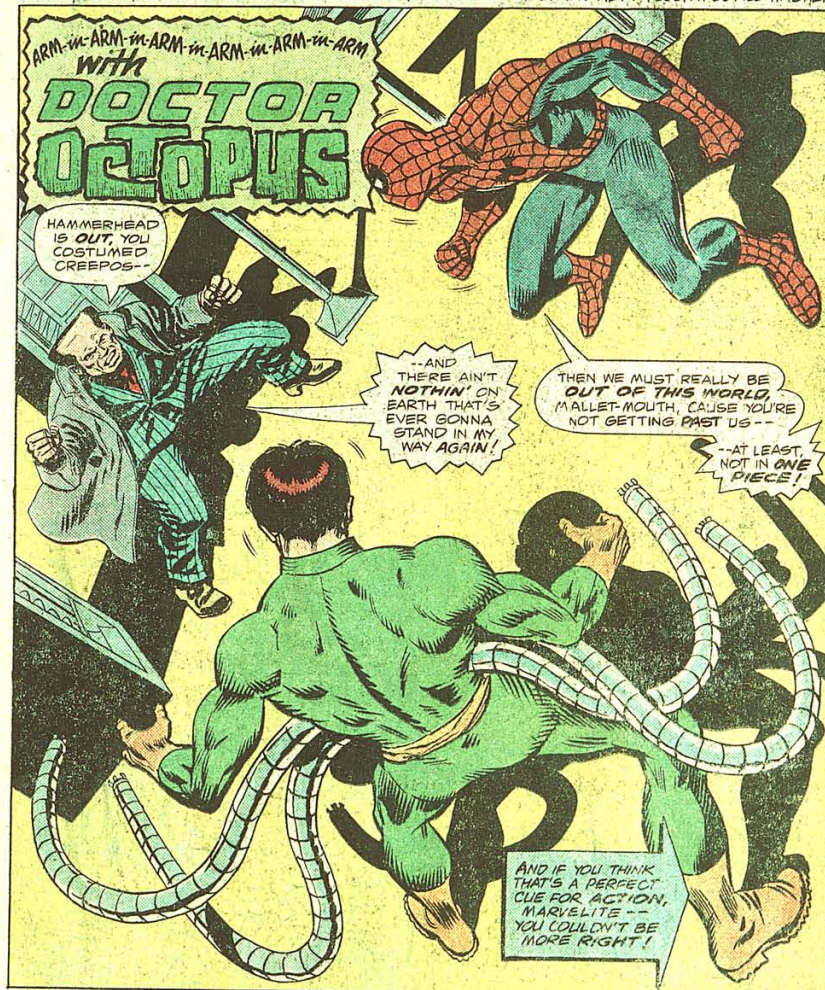
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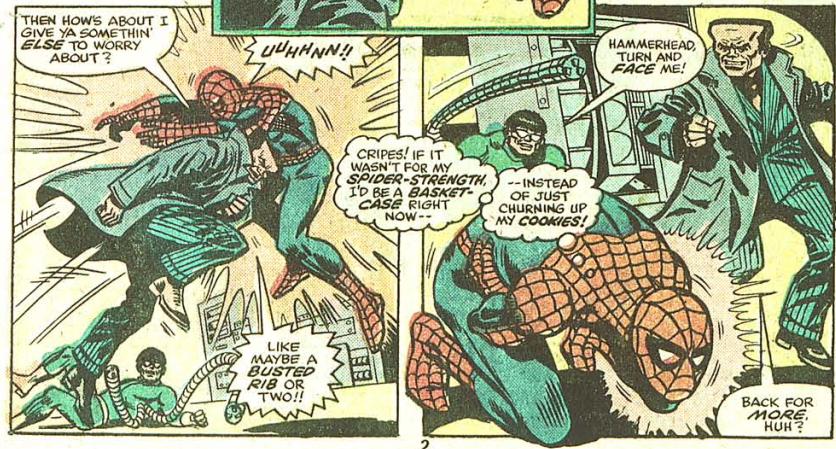
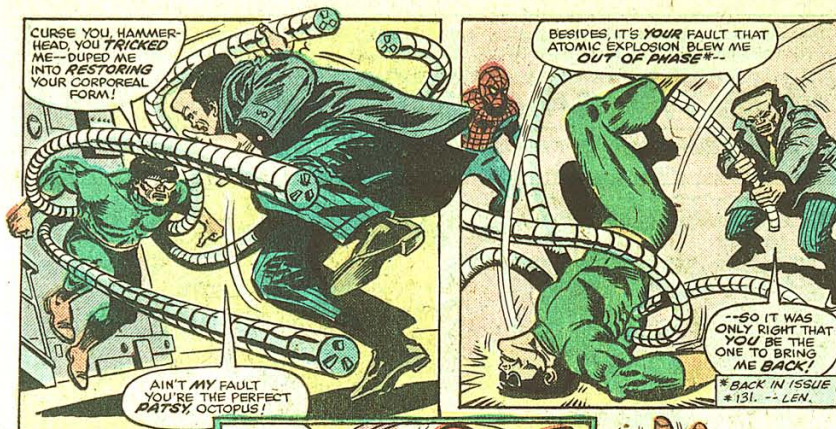
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Stan Lee
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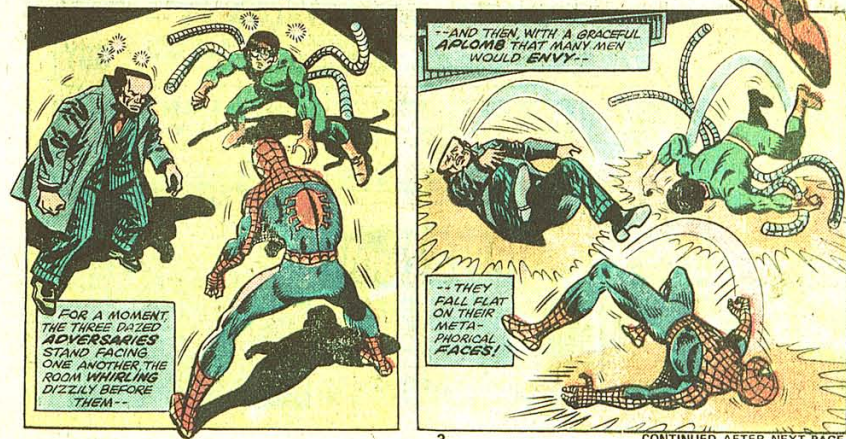
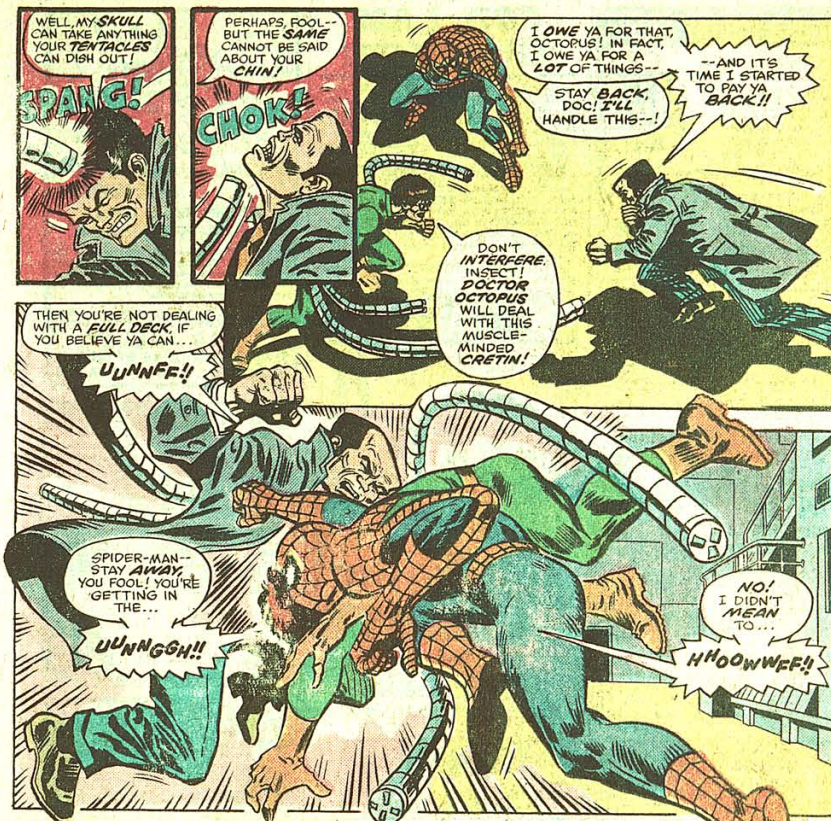
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--THEN BEGINS TO SCREAM HER FRAIL SILVER-HAIRED HEAD OFF--

--WHICH, IN TURN, SETS OFF A MOST REMARKABLE CHAIN OF EVENTS!

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--WHILE A RATHER INCREDIBLY-DESIGNED HELICOPTER DESCENDS SILENTLY TO THE BUILDING'S ROOF--

--THEN SWIFTLY DISCHARGES A BIZARRELY-COSTUMED SQUAD OF COMMANDOS, WHO TRY TO CLOSE THE COVER OF A CONVENIENT VENTILATION SHAFT--

--AND LOWER THEMSELVES STRAIGHT TOWARDS AN UN-SUSPECTING CONFRONTATION WITH--

BUT SINCE YOU'RE PROBABLY WAY AHEAD OF US--

--WHY DON'T WE JUST POP BACK INSIDE-- AND WATCH!

UHHHNN... MY HEAD FEELS LIKE IT WAS CAUGHT IN A COLLISION BETWEEN AN ARMORED CAR AND A CRAZED BULL ELEPHANT!

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I'M THE FIRST ONE TO WAKE UP!

BETTER WEB DOG OCK AND HAMMERHEAD TIGHT BEFORE...

BHOD UP! AH!

HUM? MY SPIDER-SENSE--TINGLING!

KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF THE BOSS, WEBHEAD-- OR THE NEXT BURST CUTS YOU IN HALF!

YOUR BOSS? HEY, WHAT IS THIS?

WHAT'S IT LOOK LIKE, WALL-CRAWLER? IT'S BREAK-OUT!

HAMMER-HEAD IS GOING WITH US!

WRONG, PUNK-- NOBODY'S GOING ANYWHERE!

NOW PUT THOSE GUNS DOWN-- FAST!

WHA--? IT'S THE COPS!

BLAST THOSE LOUSY--

SPARK!

HEY-- MY EYE! CAN SEE!

BHOD UP! AH!

THANKS FOR THE ASSIST, WEB-SLINGER-- BUT THESE ANESTHETIC BULLETS WILL...

NO! DIDN'T MEAN TO KNOCK HIM OFF THAT LANDING--!

B-OOM!

NO SWEAT FRIEND. I'LL JUST CATCH HIM BEFORE...

CRIPES! OCTOPUS GOT IN MY WAY! TRIPPED OVER HIS BLASTED TENTACLES--

THAT GUN-WIELDING WEIRD IS GONNA LAND RIGHT ON MY...

UUNNNH!

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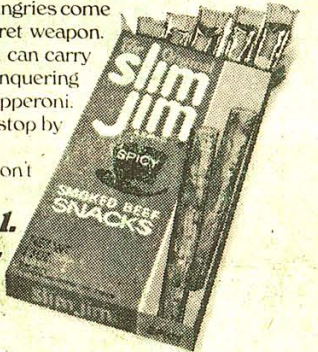
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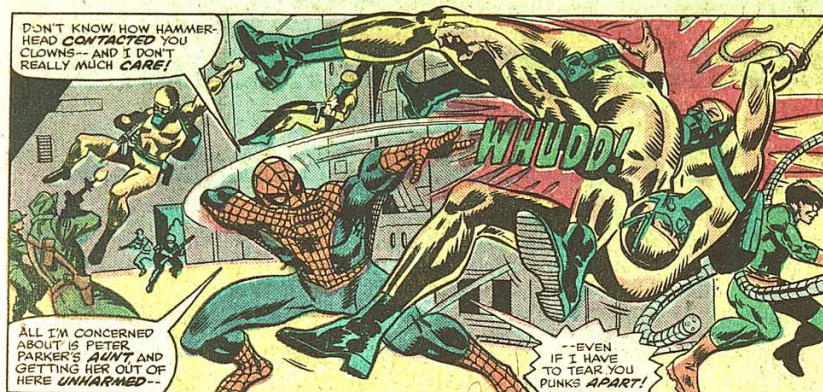
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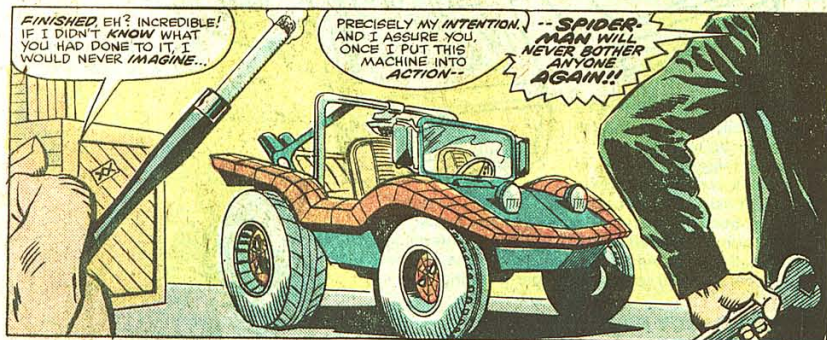
Basketball: American Basketball Association. **Hockey:** American Hockey League, Central Hockey League, United States Hockey League. **Lacrosse:** National Lacrosse League. **Soccer:** American Soccer League. **Track:** International Track Association. **Volleyball:** International Volleyball League. And more leagues to come, so check your local teams to see if they are participating.

SUGAR DADDY FROM NABISCO

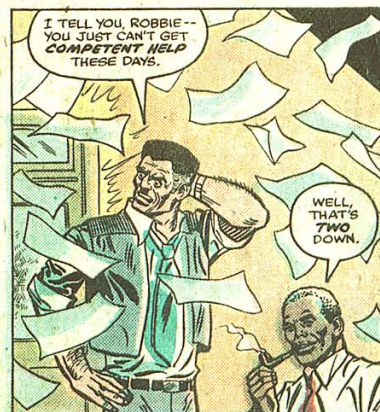
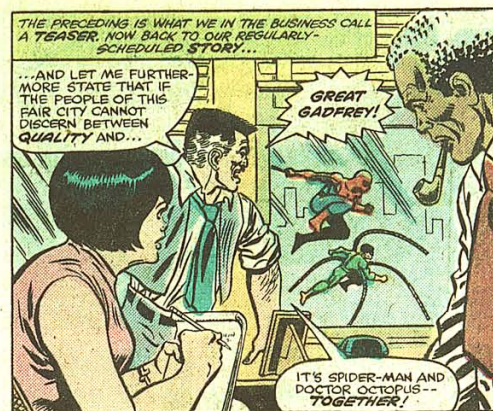
The smartest cookie in the candy business.

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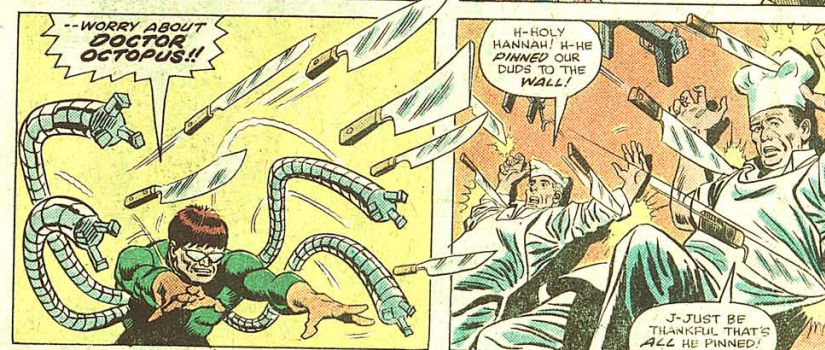
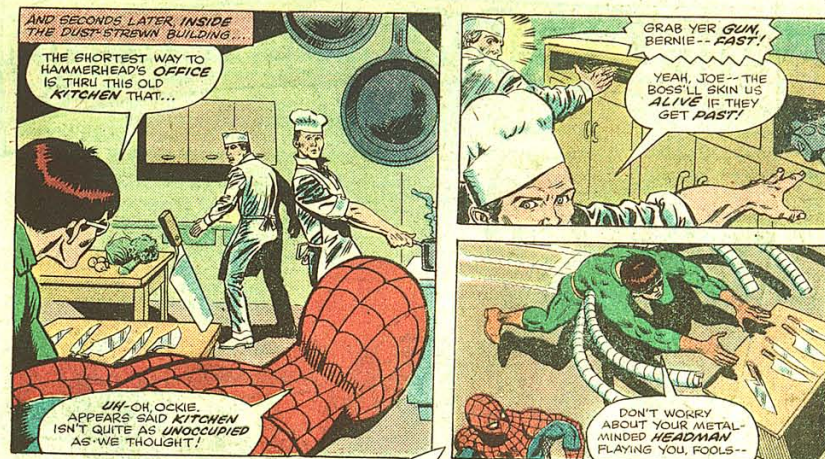
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14



15





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THE SPIDER'S WEB

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Dear People:

SPIDER-MAN #155 was...nice; but that's about all it was. After I finished reading it, the first thought I had was *Huh???* I couldn't believe that I'd just read 17 pages of a Marvel mag. It was over before I could even say, "Hail Hydra!" Also, the mystery was too obvious for Marvel—I'm sure Len can do better than that.

Finally, I have a request: Enough with the one-issue stories, already! We've had four of them since #150. Let's have some of those far-famed multi-issue sagas!

Maurice Barry
 Box 249
 Windsor, Newfoundland
 Canada

You will, Maurice—you will! We've just come through a somewhat unsettling transition period with Spidey, but we're back on the track (as they say), and without undo webfare we can promise you that a wog-boggling amount of wonderment waits ahead for our wall-crawler...and for you!

Dear Len, Sal, and Mike:

A couple days ago, I was looking through my collection of old Marvel books that have been discontinued, and I came across the excellent MAN-WOLF series that was featured in CREATURES ON THE LOOSE. In addition to some amazing stories by David Kraft and fantastic graphics by George Perez, that series involved a certain newspaper publisher we all know. The series was cancelled with a lot of loose ends up in the air, just as a great deal of stress was placed upon the emotions of J. Jonah Jameson. I think it would be a good idea to tie up that series here in SPIDER-MAN, following the plotlines left by Dave Kraft. Just what are your future plans for Man-Wolf?

As for SPIDER-MAN #155; it was a little disappointing. Len had his usual snappy and free-flowing dialogue, and Sal and Mike produced the kind of artwork that won Sal the last Irving Award for Best Penciller...but something was missing. I think it was because the plot was a little too simplistic. And none of the subplots were even touched on! Perhaps the plot had potential, but that potential wasn't realized like it was when Mary Wolfman did his whodunit in TOMB OF DRACULA several months ago.

Yet, there were some positive sides to the story. First, you've ended that unbelievable subplot from DAREDEVIL concerning the W.H.O. computer—even to the point of including D.A. Blake Towers. And you tied up that subplot in such a way that a future storyline is possible. Another positive addition to the tale was the introduction of Leroy Tallon. If only you had played him up more! Let's see him escape from jail and return.

So next we see the marriage of Ned and Betty? That's good. It's understandable that the wedding would have been postponed, what with the Jackal kidnapping Ned and all. I hope that this marks a return of Ross Andru. Sal does a fantastic job, but I like Ross' style on SPIDER-MAN. It's just too bad that John Romita hasn't been able to keep up with the inking chores. I assume that Sal stepped in to help while Ross was working on the SUPERMAN/SPIDER-MAN team-up. Am I right?

Speaking of that book, I'd like to congratulate you on your fine work. It was nice to see Gerry Conway scripting a story once more. My only complaint was that the two characters just

happened to bump into each other as if they had been living on the same planet all along. That's not so good for continuity.

Larry Twiss
 227 Fox Run
 King of Prussia, PA 19406

Whew! Despite the fact that we had to cut your letter somewhat due to space limitations, Larry, you've still given us plenty to talk about. We'll take it from the top:

Dave the Dude and Pacesetter Perez are completing the MAN-WOLF saga even as we speak, for two as-yet-unscheduled issues of MARVEL SPOTLIGHT. Once and for all, of fang-snout's origin will be revealed! Watch for it, folks.

Next, Lively Len assures one and all that subplots are back to stay—and how! He had so much straightforward storyline to cram into #155 that he postponed the regular subplots for that ish only.

And you're absolutely right about Ross Andru's unannounced absence here as regular artist; he was busily penciling the book that set the entire comics industry on its collective ear. Speaking of the SUPERMAN/SPIDER-MAN team-up, we've got an open debate going on here in "The Spider's Web" as to exactly how—if at all—it fits into the Marvel Universe. So get with it, gang (you, too, Larry!), and let us know what you think about the whole magilla.

After all, there could be a no-prize to end all no-prizes in this for the Marvelite with the best explanation!



Fellow Free thinkers:

The story in SPIDER-MAN #155 was good. It really was. The multi-panelled cover left much to be desired, but the story was fast-paced and well-written. Too bad that fast-paced and well-written doesn't mean original, because "Whodunit" was the most UNoriginal thing we've ever read.

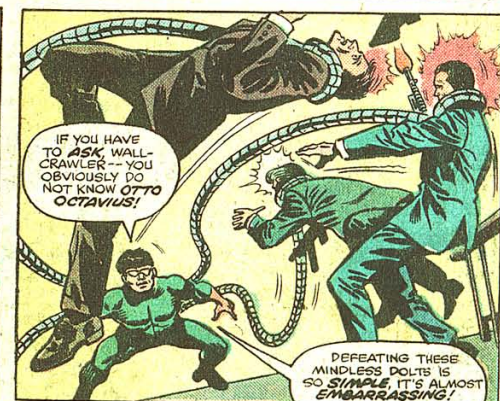
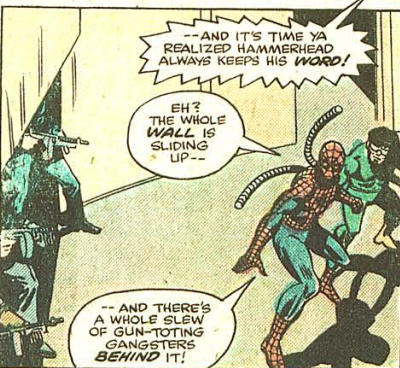
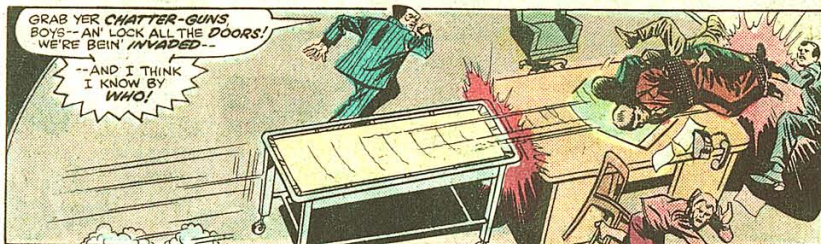
Now, don't get us wrong. We like Wein. We even like the story...sort of. It's just that we have to call it like we see it, and that type of tale isn't suited to Spider-Man. So we'll chalk it up to an error of judgement on Len's part, and let it go that.

Still friends?

Warren Jones & Sue DuBois
 316 E 77th Street
 New York, NY 10019

Still friends! But only if you promise to let us know how you liked *this* issue, Warren and Sue. Fair enough? And that goes for the rest of you semi-sophisticated but suitably unabashed Spidey-ophiles. Otherwise, it just ain't fair at all!

And on that somewhat simple note, it's off we go. After all, it's 4 A.M. and we've got a bed to catch! See ya in thirty winks!



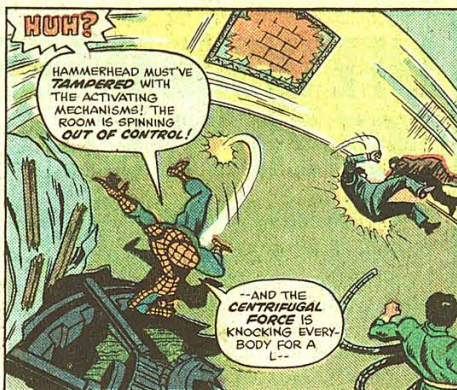


--AN' ONCE IT REACHES THE RIGHT POSITION--

--I'M GETTIN' OUTTA HERE!

CHRASH

YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE, CURLY-- WITHOUT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD YOU KNOW WHO FOLLOWING RIGHT ON YOUR...



HUH?

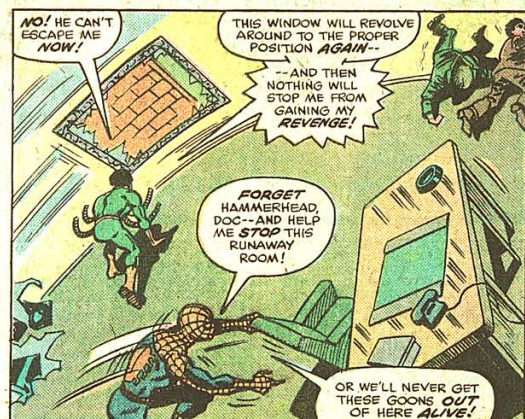
HAMMERHEAD MUST'VE TAMPERED WITH THE ACTIVATING MECHANISMS! THE ROOM IS SPINNING OUT OF CONTROL!

--AND THE CENTRIFUGAL FORCE IS KNOCKING EVERYBODY FOR A L--



OOOOOPS!

ANOTHER INCH AND IT WOULD'VE BEEN INSTANT SPIDEY BURGERS!



NO! HE CAN'T ESCAPE ME NOW!

THIS WINDOW WILL REVOLVE AROUND TO THE PROPER POSITION AGAIN--

--AND THEN NOTHING WILL STOP ME FROM GAINING MY REVENGE!

FORGET HAMMERHEAD, DOC--AND HELP ME STOP THIS RUNAWAY ROOM!

OR WE'LL NEVER GET THESE GOONS OUT OF HERE ALIVE!



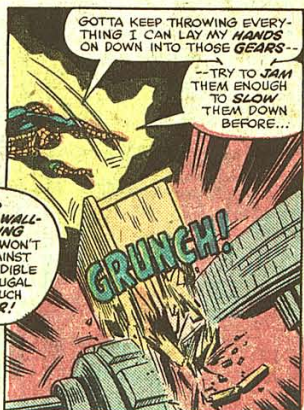
THEN LET THEM DIE! THEY DON'T MATTER TO ME! NOTHING MATTERS--

--EXCEPT HAMMER-HEAD!



CAN'T GO AFTER OCTOPUS UNTIL THIS EVER-LOVIN' ROOM STOPS SPINNING--

--AND EVEN MY WALL-CRAWLING ABILITY WON'T STAND AGAINST THIS INCREDIBLE CENTRIFUGAL FORCE MUCH LONGER!



GOTTA KEEP THROWING EVERYTHING I CAN LAY MY HANDS ON DOWN INTO THOSE GEARS--

--TRY TO JAM THEM ENOUGH TO SLOW THEM DOWN BEFORE--

GRUNCH!



THERE YA GO! THAT FINALLY WOUND THE GIZMO DOWN! NOW I'VE GOT TO...

UH-OH. HAMMERHEAD'S JOY-BOYS ARE BACK ON THEIR FEET--

--AND THEY DON'T LOOK PLEASED!



HONESTLY, SOME PEOPLE JUST DON'T KNOW WHEN THEY'RE WELL OFF!

AND WITH THESE CLOWNS OUT OF THE WAY AUNT MAY WILL BE SAFE HERE WHILE I GO AFTER DOCTOR OCTOPUS AND...



OH, SWELL!

THAT'S THE ONE THING I HADN'T COUNTED ON!

WHEN THE STUPID ROOM STOPPED SPINNING, IT LEFT THE ONLY WINDOW FACING A SOLID BRICK WALL!



AND WHILE THE WEB-SLINGER PONDER'S HIS IMPOSING PROBLEM, LET'S CUT TO THE NIGHT CLUB'S ROOF--AND JOIN DR. OTTO OCTAVIUS IN HIS FRENZIED SEARCH FOR...

HAMMERHEAD! WHERE ARE YOU, YOU CRAVEN COWARD? NO MATTER WHERE YOU HIDE I'LL FIND YOU! I SWEAR I'LL...

WHAT--?!! THE ROOF HAS SUDDENLY STARTED TO MOVE BENEATH MY VERY FEET--!!

HAVE TO GET OUT OF THE WAY BEFORE...

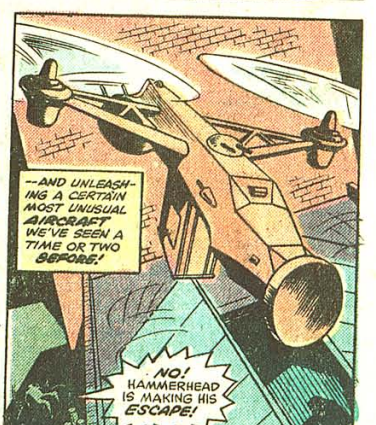


BUT THE NOT-SO-GOOD DOCTOR'S ANXIOUS EXCLAMATION IS ABRUPTLY CUT SHORT--

--AS THE TARPAPERED ROOFTOP SWINGS WIDE OPEN--



--DEPOSITING THE EIGHT-LIMBED ARCH-VILLAIN RATHER UNCEREMONIOUSLY IN THE ADJOINING ALLEYWAY--



--AND UNLEASHING A CERTAIN MOST UNUSUAL AIRCRAFT WE'VE SEEN A TIME OR TWO BEFORE!

NO! HAMMERHEAD IS MAKING HIS ESCAPE.

A PULSE-POUNDING PALIMPSEST OF PAJANDRUMS PURE, PALAVER PARADISIC, AND PAENS PANDEMIC!

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Hoo Boy! This'll be the shortest Soapbox on record! Yours truly just caught the flu! So, between sneezes and fever chills, there's just time to finally tell you the name of the third ORIGINS book coming your way this Fall. First there was ORIGINS OF MARVEL COMICS, then SON OF ORIGINS (both still on sale, of course, and doing better than ever), and now—the big news. No, it won't be called MOTHER-IN-LAW OF ORIGINS as so many of you predicted—though that might have been a zesty name, too—but, since it deals with the origins of the Marvel Universe, we decided to title it—**are you ready for this?—BRING ON THE BAD GUYS!** I'll give you the line-up in an issue or two, soon as I stop sneezing. Oh, and thanks to Jasty Johnny Corbin for arranging those two great lectures for me at Philadelphia Community College and Burlington County College. Two in one day was really a kick, John Boy. Finally, don't miss the big news next ish about Gerry Conway and Marv Wolfman! No, they didn't defect to the CIA! That's it, gang. And remember—let's be good to each other—we may not be much, but we're the only human race we've got! Now open the aspirin bottle and warm up the tea, Joanie—I'm headin' for home in high gear!

Excellor!

Stan Lee

ITEM! This seems to be the month for Mighty Marvel Milestones. True Believer! Not only do the old X-Men do battle with the new X-Men in the panoramic panels of X-MEN #100—not only does the long-remembered Wonder Man return to the pitiful pages of AVENGERS #150—but the fate of the whole damned nation depends on everyone's favorite red, white, and blue Avenger, Captain America—and his high-flying action partner, the Falcon—stopping the dreaded Madbomber from blowing everyone's mind to Kingdom Come and back, in the pages of Marvel's Bicentennial treat to you: CAPTAIN AMERICA #200. If you miss this triumvirate of titanic tales, you'll only have yourself to blame, and we don't wanna give you a guilt complex!

ITEM! Speaking of milestones, this month also sees the second sensational set of MARVEL CLASSICS on your newsstand shelves. The literary greats

of yore, and the artistic masters of Marvel, combine to bring you such all-time favorites as GULLIVER'S TRAVELS, BLACK BEAUTY, MOBY DICK, and the ever-popular TOM SAWYER. No, don't thank us. You know how embarrassed we get.

ITEM! And that's not all, Wild Ones! This month we also present the latest and greatest MARVEL TREASURY EDITION, featuring the God of Thunder himself. Yeah, that's right, Goldilocks and his Asgardian buddies battle the Mighty Mangog in a full-length blast from the past! And, if you want to see what maniacal Mangog's doing these days, pick up the current issues of the regular, all-new THOR! Both are treats to titillate the taste buds of all True Believers. Thou shalt not miss this one!

ITEM! You've been asking for it! And never let it be said that we heed not thy requests! So, from now on, whenever you send for a subscription to our Mighty Marvel mag, your copies will be mailed to you flat—UNFOLDED! You'll find all the details in the subscription ad elsewhere in this issue. With this newest treat, there isn't a single reason not to get your Marvels by mail. Try it, and you'll be glad you did. Of course, your mailman might not be thrilled carrying about those thousands of extra subscription copies, but when he finds out they're Marvel mags, he'll be glad to do his bit to further the cultural revolution!

ITEM! With all the other specials winging your way this month, we don't want the following twin titles to be lost in the shuffle. This is the month we bring back an old friend, and try out a nutty new concept we think you'll really dig. So welcome back KULL THE DESTROYER, and say hello to THE MAN-BEAST CALLED... WOODGOD! Kull comes smashing your way from the combined talents of Rascally ROY THOMAS, Devil-May-Care DOUG MOENCH, Edwardian ED HANNIGAN and Smashin' STEVE GANI! And it features the wildest, weirdest sword-and-sorcery sensation this side of Cimmeria. WOODGOD, by Bolsterous BILL MANTLO, KEITH GIFFIN and KLAUS JANSON, makes its appearance in MARVEL PREMIERE #31. He's a superhero, and not your garden-variety type, either. So take a peek at what may be the craziest character to come your way since that fateful day the gamma-irradiated Bruce Banner had his first transformation. While we're at it, let's give another plug to an upcoming mind-boggler from Marvel, namely the oft-mentioned new masterpiece: The Man Called NOVA! It'll be hitting your newsstand this June, and we'll tell ya that everyone in the whole blamed

Bullpen is just wild over this brand-new superhero. Fact is, friends, we haven't seen so much excitement around here in years, as the gang wonders exactly when Marvelous MARY WOLFGAN, Big JOHN BUSCEMA, and Jottin' JOE SINNOTT will actually finish the balmy book! Even STAN the Man has caught the NOVA fever, by making this a monthly title even before the first issue comes out! That's how sure he is, and that's how sure we all are that you'll really dig this new comer. So, join Richard Rider and company, for a trek into superhero action like you've never seen before!

ITEM! Lately we've been deluged with No Prize requests for everything from finding a spelling error that one of our infamous armadillos may have somehow let slip by, to discovering a fingernail missing on a character's hand. So, we thought we'd like to restate the philosophy behind the No Prize, here and now, where every Marvelite will be sure to read it! Nearly nobody likes to be a loser, and everyone likes to be a winner, so, if we give an actual prize for spotting some major mistake, there will be some losers who won't be getting anything. Therefore, we created, long before the dawn of man, or maybe a week or two after, the No Prize! Awarded for the discovery of some error of major proportions—that cannot be explained by a Bullpenner, or for some meritorious feat of research, or for any act of Marveldom heroism, above and beyond the call of sanity! The No Prize eliminates losers, 'cause—how can there be a loser for a No Prize? And, for those of you who have never been no-prized, the incredible impact of the awesome honor, if and when you get it, will be one of the greatest events of your life—succeeded only by that fateful day when you learn about sugarless bubble gum—or that girls are different from boys!

ITEM! Hey! We're running out of room, so we've got just one rhapsodical request. Y'see, we're trying to work up a list of all the college comic book courses that are being taught across the country, for sinister reasons known only to the High Armadillo. So, if ya know of one, attend one, or teach such a course, drop us a card, eh? Until next month, don't live in gloom—back FOOOM!

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AH YES, MY LITTLE FELLOW, MY COSMIC CUBE...WITH YOUR POWERS AND MY EVIL BRAIN WE CAN TAKE OVER THE UNITED STATES BEFORE THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION. AND THEN THE WORLD. (OF COURSE, IT WILL BE LOTS EASIER WITH CAPTAIN AMERICA OUT OF THE WAY.)

WELCOME, CAPTAIN AMERICA. MY COSMIC CUBE HAS JUST DELIVERED YOU FROM WASHINGTON TO MY DOORSTEP. NOW WE'LL SEE WHAT KIND OF BICENTENNIAL IT WILL BE WITH YOU AS MY PRISONER.

I KNOW HOW TO GET THAT COSMIC CUBE ON MY SIDE.

OKAY, COSMIC CUBE, SINCE YOU'RE SO SUPER-POWERFUL, MAYBE YOU'LL BE SUPERSENSITIVE TO DELICIOUS HOSTESS TWINKIES.

...MMMM... DELICIOUS GOLDEN SPONGE CAKE.

THE CUBE REFUSES TO DO ANYTHING AGAINST CAP, BECAUSE IT IS ENJOYING THE TWINKIES TOO MUCH!

YOUR COSMIC CUBE REFUSES TO OBEY YOU, BECAUSE IT'S ENJOYING THE HOSTESS TWINKIES.

COSMIC CUBE, I COMMAND YOU TO PULVERIZE CAPTAIN AMERICA!

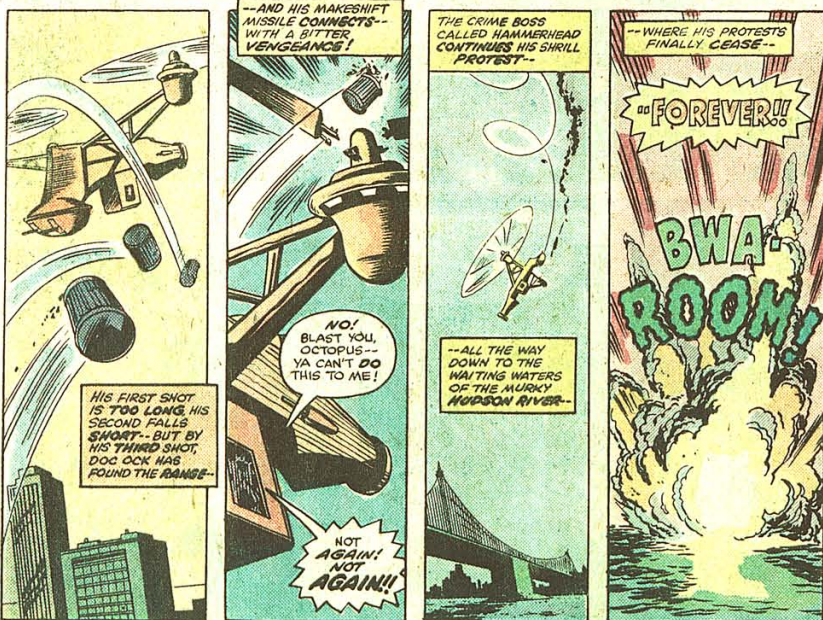
...AND NOW BACK TO THE IMPORTANT WORK OF THE GLORIOUS BICENTENNIAL. (I'D BETTER STOP OFF FOR ANOTHER PACKAGE OF HOSTESS TWINKIES ON MY WAY BACK TO THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT.)

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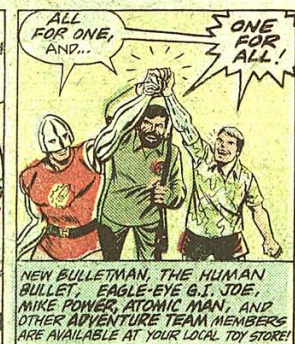
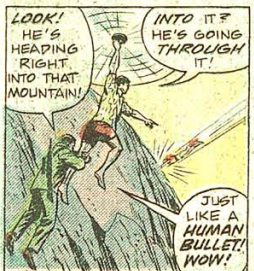
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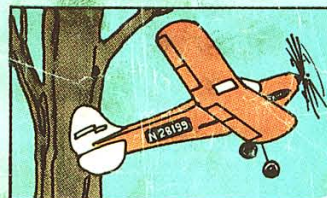
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